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One year in
Celebrating the seasons with Mason Jar on page 3

Trip down memory lane
Explore the past on page 6

Calling citizen scientists!
Bioblitz wanders the woods on page 11

Sophie Longo and Chloe Morissette dance to the song *Skinny Love* as a part of the graduation dance for Longo during last year's Skyline performance. The dancers are hitting the stage again this coming weekend in Haliburton. /FILE

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The crow and the robin

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DEB REED
Wind in the Attic

Ugh. Another Debbie Downer narrative. An Aesop's fable? Pronounced 'eye-sop', he was an Ancient Greek storyteller who originated many classic morality tales, mostly using animal characters. *The Boy Who Cried Wolf. The Tortoise and the Hare. The Fox and the Grapes.* His stories begat mottos which have survived centuries: Look before you leap. Appearances can be deceiving. Leave well enough alone. Beauty is only skin-deep. Variations on these endure universally, and are earnestly discussed in homes, classrooms, faith-based lessons and media.

Charlotte's Web, Winnie-the-Pooh, The Little Engine That Could, The Velveteen Rabbit - even *The Berenstain Bears* - are all modern efforts where children's fiction writers hope to impart general morality guidelines. Most also use animals to represent life's rocky climb towards enlightenment and temperance.

Enlightenment. Temperate weather. Spring. Our classic, ancient, reliable Canadian reboot. This long-awaited season has its usual fits and starts. As always, I forget about the black flies. I'm a chronic bug magnet who scorns bites. What I do welcome is birdsong. Once again, there's music in them their highlands. So much better than freezing rain on windows.

The Black Flies and the Birdsong ... as with Aesop, a little ironic evil somehow has to balance the good. Flying things themselves eat other flying things. Birds catch insects in open beaks while dipsy-doodling through air. Whip-poor-wills, nighthawks, swallows, swifts, flycatchers, phoebes. From early spring, the latter repeats a sweet reassuring song, and is often catching black flies amongst her silences.

Of all Ontario March returns, the American robin is likely the most precious and familiar of early songbirds. It's actually a member of the thrush family. Contrarily, across the Atlantic, the smaller European robin is a flycatcher, and has a unique different voice. It was a significant character and symbol in the morals-based *The Secret Garden* and *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.*

But back to Debbie Downer, and my own sad 'Tale of Two Species'. Its moral is less about ethics, only vaguely represents civilization, and it speaks much more about survival than any spiritual enlightenment.

We'd been watching a mated pair of robins sprucing up an old nest atop a vacant birdhouse in our backyard. Bugs were plentiful, and dad scrounged them from the lawn to help mum while she roosted atop her teal-coloured batch of this year's eggs. Babies eventually hatched, and they too were fed local bugs. When their tiny throats were strong enough to cheep, we'd hear them, and sometimes spot their wobbly little heads. Suddenly, after a week or so, we were startled by crazed persistent squawking. We instantly imagined two adult robins fighting, but the window proved otherwise. A giant crow had bullied both parents to the ground and was helping itself to fledglings. 1-2-3-4 … each tiny writhing fluff was carried away by a hard yellow beak to distant treetops.

Our sadness was about a literal empty nest and profound absence of morning birdsong (dawn chorus, to English robins). There is no moral to this story.

The Mason Jar celebrates one year anniversary

THOMAS SMITH
County Life Staff

The team at the Mason Jar spent their quieter season preparing the destination for a busy summer ahead, as they celebrated one year in business. /photo submitted

This spring, the Mason Jar celebrated their one year anniversary at their 15436 Highway 35 location in Carvarnon.

Luckily, owner Tara Schroeder says that their business was unaffected by the ice storm in April. Last spring and summer, the Mason Jar was upgraded by Kegel Heating and Cooling who installed a heater system in their truck. They also built an awning providing cover for customers ordering.

"During the slower season, we took the time to revamp our summer menu, and make other necessary updates to the truck," said Schroeder. "This time allowed us to slow down a little, enjoy time with friends and family, ice fish, snowmobile, and take a trip to a sunny destination."

Despite the frigid temperature this past Victoria Day, Schroeder says that they were not disappointed by the turnout. She says that they had a lineup and their parking lot was fully packed.

New additions to their menu include onion rings, a spicy basil pork power bowl, roadhouse smash burger, jumbo hot dog, chocolate caramel cheesecake and the Minden Chicken Mac. Toppings for their signature "Minden Mac" line of sandwiches includes bacon, cheddar cheese, diced onions, lettuce, dill pickles, and their signature Jar sauce. An assortment of salads is planned to be available later in the season.

"We ended up turning our online ordering system off early in the weekend due to the high volume of customers," said Schroeder. "We are so grateful for all the customers we were able to serve during this weekend."

With summer weather fast approaching, the Mason Jar will be open five days a week, from Thursday to Monday. This spring, they will be open from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m., and hope to extend their hours as the weather gets warmer.

"This first year has far exceeded the humble beginnings of what we expected, in every way," said Schroeder. "We have built an incredible customer base from those living in the surrounding communities, but also on our social media platforms and beyond."

Schroeder says that this is just the beginning for the Mason Jar brand.

"We are currently working on building a strong team, which will be the foundation to expanding in the future," said Schroeder. "For right now, this massive food truck keeps us all very busy."

Like many small town businesses, the Mason Jar has found it challenging to find and hold onto quality staff. Lacking the resources and amenities for workers to settle down, Schroeder says that affordable housing is a huge concern for their business. An inconsistent and seasonal fluctuation of the population makes it difficult for employers to offer year-round employment. With a lack of indoor season, Schroeder says that their business is at a disadvantage during the colder months.

"I believe that owning a food related business is a tough industry to be in, no matter where you happen to be located," said Schroeder. "This just so happens to be the prominent challenge our local food industry businesses have to face in this area."

The Mason Jar is currently looking for staff to join their crew. Applications can be sent to them through their Instagram @themasonjarfoodco or by contacting them through their website themasonjar.ca.

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Why civic engagement doesn't end at the ballot box

JESSICA SLADE
Plain Talk Politics

During the federal election, I had countless conversations with people across Haliburton County who felt unsure, overlooked, or frustrated by politics. Some said their vote didn't count. Others weren't sure who to trust. And many shared the same feeling: you vote, and then it's over.

I get it. Politics can feel distant – especially in rural communities like ours. But here's the truth: civic engagement is more than checking a box every few years. It's about showing up in small ways, asking questions, sharing your voice, and helping shape the kind of community we all want to live in.

This column is my way of continuing that conversation. I'll be writing about how local decisions get made, who holds power, and how we can all play a role – no matter our age or background. Some weeks I'll break down how the government works. Other times, I'll share stories from Haliburton County residents who are stepping up and making a difference.

Because if we want Haliburton County to be a place where everyone feels they belong, we need more voices at the table.

Let's start there.

Jessica Slade is a national award-winning public policy professional and founder of Civics with Slade, a nonpartisan civic education initiative rooted in rural Canada. Originally from Haliburton County, Jessica has spent the past decade working across government and the nonprofit sector to promote democratic engagement and social equity. She was recently recognized as one of Peak's Emerging Leaders in Government and has received multiple Deputy Minister's Awards for her work in public policy and program design. Jessica lives in Haliburton with her husband and their two young daughters.

Quietly caring

TERESA JORDAN
Community Living Contemplations

I have had a challenging few weeks where my health has prevented me from doing things that I had planned, that I enjoy; my work and my volunteer commitments. It has been difficult to cancel and reschedule over and over again. I am so appreciative of everyone that has helped me to do this.

One of the things that I had to miss was the funeral of a mentor and friend. Ross was my Kawartha Lakes Haliburton 4-H leader when I was 12 until I was 18, and stayed in and out of my life for my adult years as he and I would cross paths. Ross was always interested in what I was doing, how my family was, where I was at in my life.

As a leader in our small community, Ross was not a person you would find at the front of the room, not with a microphone in his hand or taking charge of everything. His leadership was the quiet kind; the kind that held space for whoever he was talking to, the kind that encouraged and took an interest in young people and adults all the same. I have reflected plenty in recent days about how he never treated us like we were know-it-all teenagers or any less than the adults in the room. He listened to what we had to say, heard our problems or our solutions, which he had probably heard a dozen times over given his long tenure as a leader.

He was patient and smiled and kept on leading in his way. I can remember being completely wrong in my farm safety quiz about something, and he simply held my gaze in a quizzical manner and asked - are you sure that's the answer?

In these last few decades as I have met him at different community functions, I gravitated again to his special orbit, his quiet listening, full attention, real interest in what I was doing and who I was. Yes, over the years I know he received a few honours for his commitment to his community and his volunteering, but he never walked his path like a decorated hero. Just a person, interested in people, leading the way for so many of us to have the time and space to figure out what kind of person we were going to be. His leadership was unassuming and came from the back of the room usually, however, he had a huge impact on so many in his community.

When you get some time to reflect, I think we can all think of these mentors on our path; the ones that modelled a presence on the earth that had a quiet, lasting legacy and we are all the better for it. Looking for the leader in the room, does draw our eyes to the front of the room, or to the microphone or anyone looking severely important. However, in community, the connectors, the listeners, the teachers, the encouragers, the listeners, the quiet are important leaders too. It takes all of them to weave the magic that is a community where all gifts are part of the fabric.

Pirate's treasure washes ashore in Wilberforce

THOMAS SMITH
County Life Staff

Avast ye, land lubbers and scallywags! Hark the legend of the Pusey Pirates.

The Pusey Lake Pirates plundered the land that is now called Dark Lake. Their disappearance remains a mystery, with tall tales of their crew spreading across both lake and sea. Rumours have spread around, saying that the end of the great crew may be linked to Bartha Webber's broken broom handle (after they attempted to pillage her vegetable garden).

Recently, a chest has been overturned from the pirate crew's hoard. Inside the chest contains the maps necessary to find their treasures.

Mary Barker and Joanna Vanier have been working extensively over the past few months, analyzing the maps found in the chest. The duo have called for all residents, visitors, and interested parties to join forth in their Pirate Booty Treasure Hunt event on Saturday, June 14 at 1 p.m.

All treasure hunters will convene at the Lloyd Watson Community Centre and will be provided with a bag to collect their bounty throughout the day.

Luckily, this event will mark the 10th anniversary celebration of the Geocaching Capital of Canada's GeoTour. This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the first ever geocache, buried by Dave Ulmer of Beavercreek, Oregon.

Treasure hunters are asked to bring a potato or a carrot to begin the treasure hunt. Participants must also pay a $5 fee that goes towards the price of supplies for the day and the upkeep of the GeoTour.

Vanier says that many businesses, local residents, and volunteers are ready to assist treasure hunters throughout the treasure hunt in Wilberforce. Like any good pirate, participants are encouraged to wear their finest pirate gear and speak like a pirate.

While they do not want any sword fights breaking out, the organizers are excited for everyone to play their part as pirates.

The Geocaching Capital of Canada project began in 2006 with a collaboration between the Algonquin Gateway Business Association. The Geocaching Capital of Canada consists of seven hamlets including Cardiff, Gooderham, Harcourt, Highland Grove, Irondale, Tory Hill, and Wilberforce.

With 100 geocache locations for their GeoTour, the response from the public has been exceptional. The Geocaching Capital of Canada has become one of the favourite GeoTours based in Canada and their mascot, Tupper T. Turtle has become a recognizable figure in the geocaching community.

Yearning for more caches, 50 additional geocache locations were added to their GeoTour in 2017 to celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial.

Celebrity geocaches can be found throughout the area added by celebrities like Johnny Harris and "Hurricane" Hazel McCallion, former mayor of Mississauga.

The treasure hunt will be a geocaching event cache. The event is set to attract geocachers from all over Ontario and is open for everyone to participate. From young kids, to entire families, and adult geocachers, everyone is welcome to participate in the Pirate Booty Treasure Hunt event and find the Pusey Pirate's treasure.

Tupper T. Turtle will also be making an appearance at the event and is looking forward to taking photos with anyone who wants one.

Movie Club to meet at Cardiff library

THOMAS SMITH
County Life Staff

The Cardiff Branch of the Haliburton County Public Library (HCPL) is seeking all movie fans to come out for their brand new Movie Club.

Started by Rosemary Wynott, a staff member of the HCPL and a local cinema aficionado, the Movie Club event encourages people to come out and discuss directors, films, actors, and genres of all types. Movie award categories will be the opening discussion of Movie Club on June 14.

"DVDs are popular items to borrow from the library," said Wynott. "I know that book clubs are a great way for book lovers to talk about what they are reading and what they might read next, so I figured, why not movies as well?"

While science fiction is her favourite genre, Wynott says that no genre of film is off the table for the Movie Club.

"The plan is to explore a topic selected at the previous meeting - rabbit holes included," said Wynott. "As convenor I'll have a "quick start" activity on hand to help attendees warm up to commenting and questioning."

Wynott says that many people assume that movies are not a 'high brow' art form when compared to books.

"If you are not a reader, you can still gain a significant experience from a movie," said Wynott.

With the Movie Club, Wynott hopes that participants share their favourite movies with the others and discuss which HCPL locations have the DVDs available.

"Movies allow me to explore people, places, and things I wouldn't normally have access to," said Wynott.

If there is enough demand for the event, there is no reason for it to be limited to the Cardiff branch of the HCPL, says Wynott. The program can be run at any library branch, such as Haliburton.

There is no fee to participate. The Movie Club is the perfect event to escape the heat of the summer and discuss your favourite movies and actors with fellow cinema lovers.

The Movie Club is set to run on the second Saturday of every month at the Cardiff branch of the HCPL from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Dare to dream

The Highlands Chamber Orchestra hosted an intimate performance on Saturday at the Pinestone Resort. The performance, titled *Dreams of Faraway Lands*, highlighted works by several renowned composers, including John Barry. /ADAM FRISK Special to the *County Life*

Bassist Kelsey Redman performs during the Highlands Chamber Orchestra.

Percussionist Marcia Mandel smiles during the Highlands Chamber Orchestra performance.

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Memories

WHEN I first started with *County Life,* a number of years ago now, I was tasked with a column that surrounded the experience as a Millennial in a small town. At the time, us Millennials were in our early 20s. A stage where presumably, the quiet nature and early closing times of a rural community would have an impact on our social lives.

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

Unfortunately, I don't think my angle of 'I prefer an early bedtime and my drink of choice is Sleepy Time Tea' really appeased my editor at the time; who was seeking a little pizzazz out of the proposed storylines.

Now that Millennials have shifted into their 30s and 40s, I look back at the chapters I've wandered through. And while I was admittedly a fairly quiet Millennial, it's easy to recall seasons where that wasn't always the case. I feel lucky to have lived my 20s in a state of easy discomfort; opportunities were placed in front of me, but endless options and a misguided belief of needing to have it all figured out charged my decisions forward.

I traveled around. Lived in tents. Planted trees and picked cherries. I slept on a beach during low tide and tasted gooey chocolate over an open flame after harvesting cocoa beans.

Memories. I find they're often sparked by seasonal changes. This time of year brings some of the best chapters flooding to the forefront. Through elementary school, warmer weather and unfurling leaves always identified longer days of summer ahead.

In university, the tulips popping up meant that the next adventure was on the horizon. A time when you're old enough to make decisions about where you want to go, but young enough to not know any better; a permeated state of waterlogged joy.

Over the course of a lifetime, scientists estimate that the modern human brain will hold up to 1 quadrillion pieces of information. If you were comparing your brain to that of a computer, that number would roughly equate to approximately 2.5 million gigabytes of storage. The largest computer storage system available can hold a mere 10,000 gigabytes.

That's a lot of memories. And more contributes to a memory than the flash of an experience. It's the smells, the tastes, the sounds.

Sometimes I am surprised by the way the soft buttery sunlight casting a shadow through the wiry forest can snap a very real memory back into place. Like it's a thought that's been whirling and swirling in my brain, seeking its forever home.

Can you imagine if we had every memory at our fingertips? If all those pieces of information stacked neatly on top of one another, readily accessible in your mental Rolodex. With the pace we consume information and thought, it's impossible to have a streamlined approach to memories.

Instead, they flit into our existence and swim through our sub-conscious. Sometimes, if a memory carries a dark light, it's shoved into a box in our brains, protected by lock and key, until we are either ready to snap open the black box ourselves, or alternatively, have it smashed open against our will.

And while the memories swill and soar through our subconscious, the murky waters have a way of bending and shaping them to follow the lines of fluidity. Bits and pieces are locked in. The smells, the tastes, the sounds. But other parts are blotted and blown up, the exact experience gone, and the memory nothing more than a fragment of shorn glass.

So as I look back on my Millennial stage, while bits and pieces are foggy and cracked, I can't help but sometimes sit in those places of whimsical joy and sweet summers.

And really, while chapters of lives have been lived, I still prefer an early bed time, and my drink of choice is Sleepy Time Tea.

Top 10 reasons cats don't wag their tails

WHEN YOU live with a dog and two cats as I do, you think about the big, important questions. This morning, I was wondering why they both have tails, but cats choose not to wag theirs. After two coffees and minutes of deep thought, here's what I came up with.

1. They don't want people to mistake them for dogs.
2. The don't ever want to give the impression they are happy.
3. It could lead to quite a mess in the litter box.
4. Fear that other cats would attack it.
5. When they are walking away, it would draw even more attention to their worst feature.
6. It would distract them from thinking about important life goals, like knocking something fragile off a shelf.
7. It could lead to chasing their tail and that looks undignified.
8. Dogs to it. So it can't be that smart.
9. It would take away from their otherwise superior demeanour.
10. It is very difficult to successfully stalk a bird when your tail is moving like a metronome.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

Feast

Earth stirring beneath my fingers, foraging for ramps in the dampness of forest,
black flies swarming around my head, feasting on the flesh of my neck and ears,
each year I return to this patch of forest, seeking wild leeks with the same zeal that the black flies seek me,
laying the long slender leaves down onto the ground, to shoo the black flies away,
swatting the Air to no avail, as the black flies assail the plain of my forehead and the slope of my nose,
that tickles as I fear I may have inhaled one of them, whole, my arms flailing in the Air as if
I were drowning on land,
trying to keep them at bay, as I gather the wild leeks, shaking clumps of earth from the threads of their roots,
before placing them in a basket, these forest treasures that I search for each spring, before their leaves
yellow and wilt,
the fragrance of the bulbs, making my mouth water, in anticipation of this evening's feast,
a giant bowl of freshly picked leeks, sprung from the earth, fed by droplets of Rain and Sun,
trying to ignore the army of black flies marauding through Air, attacking me,
beseeching them to Go Awaaay, as I veer deeper into the forest where I spot more leeks,
crouching down to dig them from the earth, my hands, like claws, as I paw at the ground, feeling feral,
for a moment,
my fingers encrusted with dirt, drenched in the smell of forest, as I duel with the black flies at the same time,
the thickness of Air, warm as a woolen blanket, the first real heat this spring,
teasing us into thinking it's summer, before it retreats, and Wind blusters its way back again,
bringing with it, days of Rain,
I peer up at the canopy of trees, as I squat on the forest floor, on my hands and knees,
ignoring the buzzing of black flies for a moment, to drink in this sea of green that floods the branches of trees
with fresh leaves,
wild leeks sprawling across this patch of forest, that I am uprooting in an instant,
seizing them by their slender leaves, displacing them as I lay them in the basket,
all for my pleasure to bring back and prepare a meal,
while the black flies nibble on the lobes of my ears and the hillocks of my ankles,
I wonder whether their feast is as tasty as mine will be,
feeling the bumps sprouting on my neck with my fingers, that leave smudges of dirt on my flesh,
lingering in the forest after the basket has been filled with the long green leaves of wild leeks,
and the threads of their roots that connected them to the earth, and all the things that grew around them,
the trees, towering over them, providing shade from this fleeting burst of heat,
that wilts the Air as black flies buzz and swarm around my head, batting them away with my free hand,
the other, clutching a basket, brimming with ramps, as I clomp my way back through the patch of forest,
scratching the bumps on my neck and an itch on my cheek,
a small price to pay for the pleasure and privilege of feasting on a giant bowl of freshly picked wild leeks,
morsels of forest exploding on my tongue, as my taste buds savour this rare spring treat.

Sylvie Kalenda

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Broker
705-455-7500
kelly@kelly-mercer.ca

BACON ROAD $539,900

This side-split home features a stair lift to the main level. Spacious eat-in kitchen, bright living room, 4 piece bathroom, one bedroom, an office area & a sunroom for year-round enjoyment. The lower level offers excellent in-law suite potential with its own walk-out entrance. It includes a second kitchen, living room, bedroom, 3 piece bathroom & laundry room. Includes a metal roof, a single-car detached garage, a two-car carport, lovely deck & sitting area in the backyard overlooking 2 acres of privacy.

Lisa Mercer
Broker
705-457-0364
www.lisamercer.ca
lisa@lisamercer.ca

DRAG LAKE $1,350,000

- Beautiful 3 Bedroom Home/ Cottage Plus a 2 Car Garage with Finished Loft for Guests.
- Beautiful Sand Shoreline & Deep Water off the dock.
- Level Waterfront!
- Simply Stunning!

John & Marj Parish
John Parish 705-457-5485
Marj Parish 705-455-2211
Sales Representatives

4-SEASON RETREAT ON GULL RIVER $825,000

- Completed in 2021- 1,100 sq ft, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
- 170 ft Owned frontage w armour stone steps into the waterfront and concrete crib leading out to 32 ft dock space
- 12x12 Screened in Sun-Porch
- 18x24 Detached Garage
- Yr round Private road, 5 mins to Minden
- Boat into Minden or make your way to prestigious Gull Lake for miles of boating, swimming, fishing

Cheryl Smith
Sales Representative
705-455-2500
info@cherylsmithremax
cherylsmithremax.com

Are you looking for a hunt camp or off-grid retreat?

84 Acres on The Burnt River
$299,900
MLS #X12057238

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Brokerage · Independently Owned · Operated

Deanna & David
Broker Sales Representative
Pavlovich

Deanna: 705-790-6131 | David: 705-722-1909

BOBCAYGEON ROAD - ASKING - $105,000

Beautiful building lot located on the corner of Hwy#1118 and bobcaygeon Road - 5.93 acres - 406 ft on hwy - 787 on Twp Rd - picturesque pond with nice building locations - close to 1000's acres of crown land - lot is off grid

Ted Vasey
Sales Representative
705-455-2034
ted@tedvasey.ca

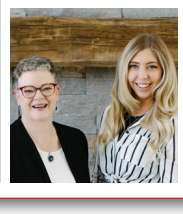
CENTRALLY LOCATED BUNGALOW $519,900

- 3 Bedroom, Open-Concept Main Level Bungalow
- Partially Finished Lower Level, Main Floor Laundry
- 2 Acre, Level Lot, Year Round Home or Cottage
- Centrally located between Haliburton & Minden

Ken Barry
Broker 705-754-5280
Jacquie Barry
Realtor® 705-457-0652
www. kenbarry.com
Out Standing In Our Field

CANNING LAKE $1,688,000

Introducing "Cedar & Pines" 5.4 beautiful acres on Canning Lake! Part of a 5 lake chain for amazing boating into Haliburton. This yr-round property was made for entertaining. The 3 bdrm home is beautifully appointed, w/ a newly built deck. Enjoy the covered firepit & bridge over the creek, or check out the 3 unique bunkies by the waterfront. You will fall in love with this amazing property.



Terry Carr & Drew Staniforth
Sales Representatives
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MovingTheHighlands.com

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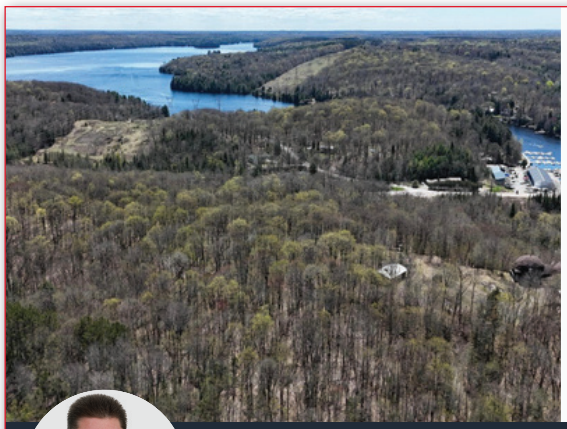
listings@remaxprofessionals.ca



Just Listed!

26 ACRES

- Year-round municipal road
- 342 feet on Osprey Road
- Soyers & Kashagawigamog Lakes within walking distance
- 12 km to Haliburton & 14 to Minden

VINCE
DUCHENE
705 457 0046

OSPREY ROAD
MINDEN
$224,900

WILBERFORCE $269,900

- Close to public acc. to Clement Lk
- Cute 2 bed/1 bath, 3 seas'n cottage
- Cozy interior; warm & inviting
- Open concept; lrg main window
- LR & KT w/o to wrap around deck
- Mixed terrain; well treed; shed
- Woodstove for heat; fire-pit area
- Close to town for amenities
- Accessed via municipal yr-rnd rd

Rick Forget
Broker
705-457-0580
haliburtonhighlands-remax.ca

1325 CLAUDE BROWN ROAD $1,299,000

Direct waterfront on Bob Lake, 120 ft of shoreline
Royal Home built in 2017
Open concept living room, kitchen, dining room * floor to ceiling windows*
3 bedroom, 2 bath + lower level family room with w/o to patio.
Gorgeous lake views, beautiful tiered gardens, stone walkways & 3 season Guest House w. 3 bedroom, bath, kitchenette

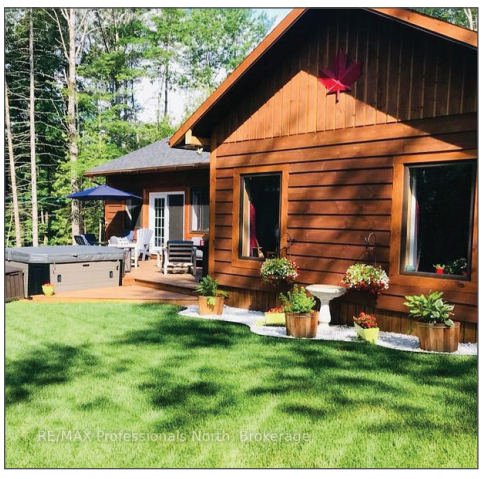
Jackie Hardman
Sales Representative
705-879-8041
jackiedhardman@gmail.com

1307 WATTS ROAD $1,799,000

Stunning 3,700 sq. ft. luxury post & beam 4 season cottage on desirable Two-Lake Chain. Main level open-concept kitchen/dining/living space with a floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace. 4 bedroom, 4 bath. Includes hot tub, central vac, dishwasher, dryer, furniture*, microwave, refrigerator, smoke detector, stove, washer, hot water tank (owned), window coverings.

Kirby Keks
Realtor
705-455-7899
www.kirbykeks.com

ALGONQUIN STYLE CHALET $769,000



Custom built, 1.22- acre riverfront lot! Privacy offered w/this open concept home featuring comb. Living/Dining/ Kit LR cathedral ceiling, electric FP & 9 ft ceilings, warm pine accents, frosted paned barn doors. Primary BR w/walk-in closet & 4 pce. spa inspired en-suite bath. 2nd. BR, 2nd. Bath & laundry rm. In-floor boiler heating system.Enjoy the riverside deck or swim in the swim hole. Hot tub/swimming pool/pool shed.

Deb Lambe
Sales Representative
705-854-0103
debra.lambe@gmail.com

3.5 ACRE BUSH LOT

- Two Road Frontage at the Corner of Porky's Road and Silverwood Road
- Municipality Maintained Year Round Road
- 10 minutes to Minden and 20 minutes to Haliburton
- Entrance and Cleared Spot

Lynda Litwin
Sales Representative
705-457-8511
lynda@lyndalitwin.ca

HALIBURTON COUNTY FAIR

AT MINDEN FAIRGROUNDS

Saturday June 14th 2025

PRESENTED BY THE MINDEN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY *SINCE 1864*

SCHEDULE OF Events

9 am:	Fairgrounds open
9 am:	Light Horse Show (all day)
9 am:	Vendors, artisans, demonstrations
9 am -11 pm:	Re/Max Balloon Rides Weather Permitting
11pm - 4 pm:	Zoo to You
3 pm:	Auction
3:30 pm:	Horse Pull
All Day:	Cattle Show
All Day:	Kids Pony Rides
All Day:	CURLING CLUB: exhibits, demonstrations, woodworking and much more.

All times are subject to change

Things to See THROUGHOUT THE DAY

~ OPP, Minden Fire Department, EMS and Smokey the Bear
~ Kawartha Dairy Ice Cream
~ Beer Tent by Mulligans
~ 50/50 Draw (Only 2100 tickets sold)
~ Haliburton Rotary Club Draw SUV Tickets Available
~ And much more

Main Stage ENTERTAINMENT

LIVE MUSIC

Mulligans Beer Tent

1 pm - 5 pm:

Beverly Mahood & Jim Jacobs

with Doug Johnson (Steel), Rick Loucks (Bass)
Wayne Ferguson (Fiddle),
Fred Lewis & Charlie Agro

Admission

Adults: $10
Kids Ages 6 - 12: $5
5 & under: No Charge
All kids events included in admission

Should I Bring Anything?

• Lawn chair(s) • Rain Jacket/Gear (Just in case)
• Sunscreen • Hat • Bug Spray • Comfortable Footwear
• Although some vendors and artisans may have debit transactions available - it would be a good idea to bring cash as well.

Camping

$25 per trailer - Plus fair admission(s)

Limited Hydro - First Come, First Served
Arrive: Thursday, June 12 - 8:30 am
Depart: Sunday, June 15 - 11 am

Kids & Youth EVENTS

~ Bouncy Castles
~ Pockets the Clown (with face painting
~ Dalrymple Rabbitry
~ Ministry of Natural Resources & SMOKEY the BEAR
~ Kids Games
~ Turtle Guardians
~ Farmers Association Farm Animals

www.haliburtoncountyfair.ca

Bioblitz sets snapshot of forest life

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

Calling all citizen scientists!

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust has announced that they will be hosting the second Bioblitz on June 21 and 22 this year.

The 24-hour event is a mad dash to seek and identify as many species as possible across a swath of land. The first local Bioblitz was held in 2017 in Dahl Forest, which garnered a discovery of 716 species within the 24-hour time slot. "People come from all over," said Adrian Martin, the communications manager for the Land Trust. "Anyone can come to join in on the fun."

Martin shared that while there are experts and biologists who flock to the event, it's also open to anyone interested in learning more about the biodiversity and ecology of the forest. This year, scientists will be tackling the 600 acres of Barnum Creek. "The Bioblitz gives us a lot of data, and a snapshot of time for diversity," said Martin. "This sets a baseline for us to understand things like the health of the ecosystem, migration patterns, climate change, and invasive species."

And it's not just for accredited scientists. The Land Trust has coordinated six guided hikes over the course of the weekend, to encourage people of all ages to explore the forest. Some of the hikes include wildflower, bird, and tree identification walks, as well as a night-time hike to pinpoint the nocturnal critters of the woods. "Everyone can be a part of the action," said Martin.

He also noted that citizen scientists are welcome to take part in the actual identification portion of the blitz, and are shown how to use the phone app called iNaturalist, which helps to keep track of the variety of species in the forest.

"Our place at the transition zone between the northern and southern bioregions of Ontario gifts us an abundance of biodiversity and natural wealth," says the Land Trust website. "Our Bioblitz events are a celebration of these gifts, providing an opportunity for our community to connect with each other and the land, while learning about nature conservation from top experts from across the province."

All are welcome to join. Registration for the Bioblitz is not required, but pre-registration is encouraged for the formal hikes taking part over the weekend.

The Bioblitz kicks off at 11:15 on June 21 and runs for 24 hours. For more information, visit www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca.

During the last Bioblitz in 2017, citizen scientists were able to identify 716 different species in Dahl Forest. /photo submitted

Explorers of all ages are welcome to attend the 24-hour Bioblitz, or participate in one of the guided hikes over the weekend. /photo submitted

Legion Events

Branch 441 Kinmount

Monday: Bid euchre 1 p.m., Cornhole 7 p.m. (upstairs)
Tuesday: Last Tuesday of the month-liver luncheon with one alternative 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Mixed darts 7:30 p.m. Canteen opens at 6 p.m.
Thursday: General meeting (3rd week) Members only 7:30 p.m.
Friday: Chair yoga 10 a.m. Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. play at 6:45 p.m.
Saturday: Meat draw 5 p.m. Canteen opens at 3 p.m.
Sunday: Ladies Auxiliary meeting (members only) 3rd week at 2 p.m.
Special events: May 11 Mother's day breakfast $13.00/person
Friday night BBQ start May 23
Hall rentals available at reasonable prices. Call 705-488-3462 or 705-928-7105. We welcome everyone to our events and we look forward to seeing you!

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge 1 p.m. Schofield Rm. Youth darts 6:30 to 8 p.m. Clubroom 10 to 18 years of age. All are welcome, no experience necessary
Tuesdays: League darts 7 p.m.
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo 7 p.m. FirstWed of each month with jackpot. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Five meat draw, five prizes each draw, first draw 4:30 p.m., last draw 6:30 p.m. Tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards. 50/50 Draw 5:40 p.m.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Everyone is welcome!
Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Friday Fish & Chips, Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541. Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Branch 624 Wilberforce

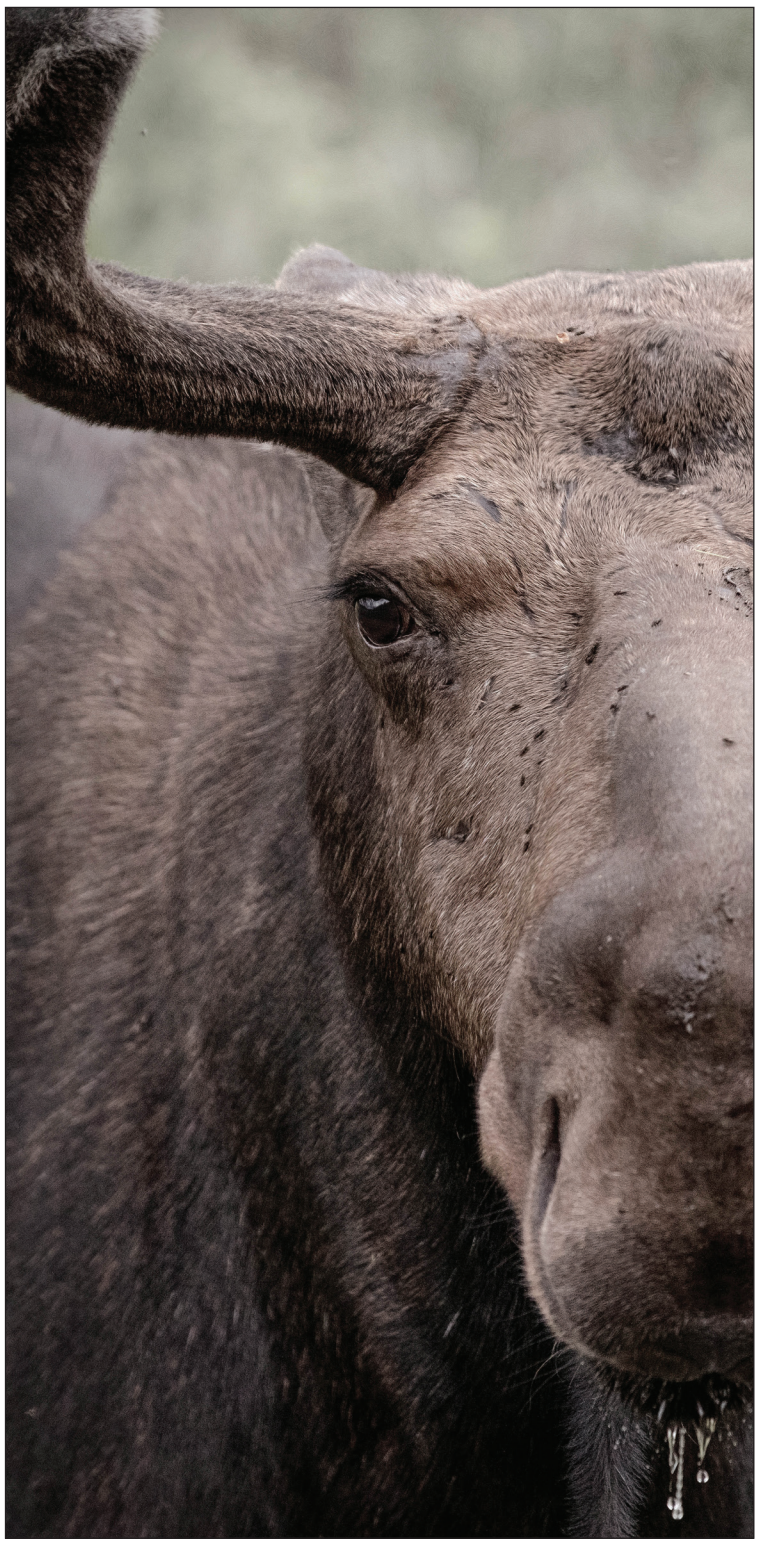
Hours - Sunday: Special Events Only, Monday: 7 to 10 p.m., Tuesday: Closed, Wednesday: 2 to 10 p.m., Thursday: 2 to 6 p.m., Friday: 2 to 11 p.m., Saturday: 2 to 9 p.m.
Mondays - June , 9, 16, 23, 30 – Darts, $5/player, 7 p.m.
Wednesdays - June 4, 11, 18, 25 – Darts, $4/player, 2 p.m.
June 4, 11, 18, 25 Horseshoes, $5/player, 7 p.m.
Fridays - June 13, 27 - Fish & Chips, 5 to 8 p.m. $15 for 1 piece $20 for 2 pieces
June 6, 20 - Wings and Jam Session, $15/lb, 5 to 8 p.m.
June 13, 27 - Seniors 55+ Lunch, $17, noon
Saturdays - June 7, 14, 21, 28, - Meat Draw, 3 p.m.
June 14 - Horseshoes Tournament, 11 a.m. Registration, $20, Live Music, Cash Prizes, Food available for purchase
June 14 – Karaoke, 8 p.m.to 1 a.m.
Sunday - June 8, LA Breakfast, 9 to 11 a.m., $10
Call the Legion for more info 705-448-2221

Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

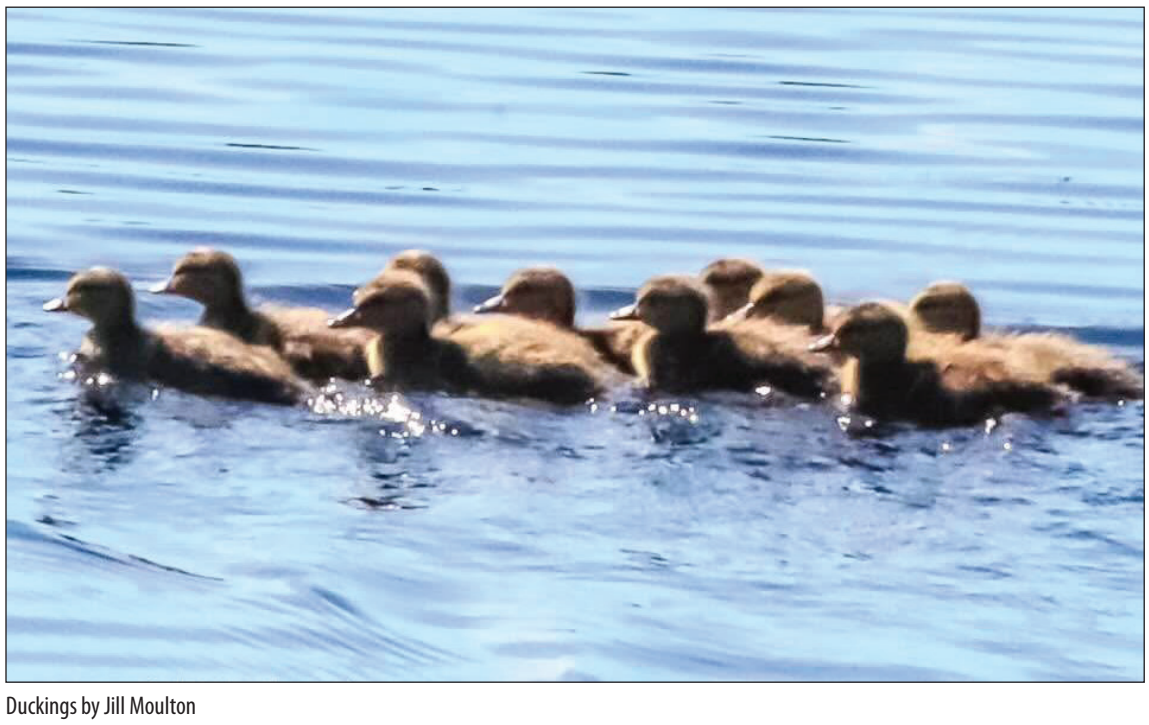
Fox kit by Tammy Nash

Red Squirrel by Vivien Mausz



Bull Moose by Tammy Nash

Ruby-throated hummingbird by Jill Moulton



Duckings by Jill Moulton

classifieds@haliburtonpress.com
Deadline Thursday at Noon.

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25ft Jayco Trailer for sale. New batteries, propane tanks, and all new bedding. Asking $5,000 or best offer. Call **705-741-6097** or **1-800-954-9998**

280 ITEMS WANTED

Wanted: scrap cars and trucks. Cash paid. Please call **705-286-3758** or **cell 249-332-1212**

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CUT SPLIT & DELIVERED seasoned firewood 90% maple/all hardwood. Very clean wood. Dry also available. CALL AND INQUIRE: **705-930-7198**

380 COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

Commercial Building for lease 1400 sq ft of on site 1067 Garden Gate Drive, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 Contact angela@abbeygardens.ca for more information **705-754-4769, ext. 221**

GET IT online
www.haliburtonecho.ca
www.mindentimes.ca

300 FOR RENT

Fully furnished house in downtown Minden with shared accommodations or just a room. Rent negotiable. Willing to help a single parent with a child. No Smoking No Pets Allowed. Call **705-935-0400** or email **herbert56123@gmail.com**

Silver Beach detached home Direct lake view - 3 bed/2.5 bath - $3200/month all inclusive - min. 3 months rental agreement - MLS # X12172070 KIRSTEN RAE • realtor Century 21 Granite Realty Group Inc. **705.854.1454** www.kayraerealestate.ca

---

Waterfront home 2 bedrooms in Minden Village. Open concept design, main floor master bedroom with ensuite. $2250/ mth plus utilities. Send resume to **rentalsminden@gmail.com**

---

3 bedroom main floor house with garage close to town $3,500 all inclusive New Build 2 bedroom walkout close to town $3,000 all inclusive New Build Contact **613-334-0357** for more information

380 COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

93 Hastings St N Commercial Lease Former Bancroft Times building 2,000 – 2,500 sq ft available plus heat and hydro Contact **613-334-0357** for more information

2 bedroom basement unit in Birds Creek $2,200 all inclusive Contact **613-334-0357** for more information

---

Duplex located in the town of Bancroft freshly renovated two bedroom with basement all appliances $2,800 all inclusive Two units available Contact **613-334-0357** for more information

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400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Cleaner required for a professional office building: Vacuuming, sweeping, mopping, scrubbing, sanitizing/ disinfecting; windows (seasonally); dusting, emptying wastebaskets; removing waste; cleaning kitchen; may also include heavy deep cleaning duties. Forward resume to jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

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Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Highlands Wind Symphony Spring Concert
When: Sun. June 8, 3 p.m.
Where: Lakeside Church, 9 Park St, Haliburton
Featuring Highlands Wind Symphony & Highlands Swing Band with Jerelyn Craden. Tickets $15 Adult, $30 Family. Available at Master's Book Store in Haliburton, or Pharmasave Minden. Call or text Lorie at 705-306-0433 for more information

Afternoon Tea Party
When: Tuesday, June 10, 2 to 4 p.m..
Where: The Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle Street, Minden.
Come celebrate with us for the 100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada. Everyone is Welcome. Hats and period costumes welcome but not required. Be our guest at no charge.

Ontario Seniors Games Association Summer Games - Golf Tournament
When : June 11 or June 18 (rain date) at 9.30 am
Where : Blairhampton Golf Club
18 holes - $ 65 including cart, lunch and prizes. Membership fee in OSGA ($15) and District 11 fee ($10) required. Further information, call Jere Pike, Golf Convenor 705-489-4838

Community Yard Sale
When: Saturday July 12
Where: 20 George St, Haliburton – North Entrance
Masonic Temple Parking lot
Rent a spot – bring your table – sell your stuff. Spot rentals from $15. Book your spot early – space is limited. Hosted by North Entrance Masonic Lodge. No.463. BBQ. - Pie Sale - Bake Table- Open House. For more info or to book your spot contact nelyardsale@victoriadistrict.com

Norwood Country Jamboree
When: July 17-20
Where: Peterborough
For tickets call 1-800-954-9998

Ohana Music Festival
When: Friday, August 22 - Sunday, August 24
Where: Minden Fairgrounds

Local Service Directory

TASN The Appliance Service Network

Rick Gibson
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www.tasn.ca

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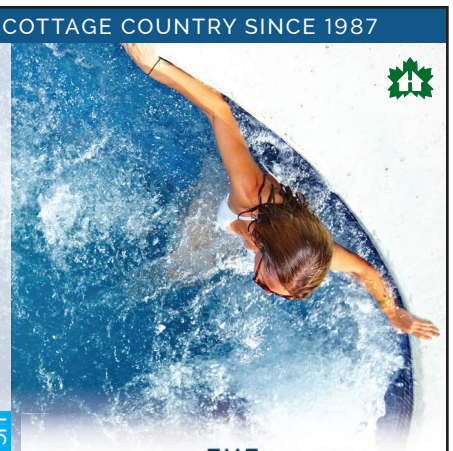

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The Times

Number 1161 25¢

Minden

Wednesday, May 29, 1985

The World Famous
ROCKCLIFFE
Tavern Minden
This Week:
Pyramid
Next Week:
Satyr (all week)

Taxes jump 10.8%

Ratepayers in the municipality of Anson, Hindon and Minden face a 10.8% increase in property taxes in 1985 due in large part to a significant hike in the education levy.

The 1985 budget of $2,720,749 approved by council at a meeting on Thursday includes municipal expenditures of $1,612,990, an education levy of $1,061,209 and payments to the County of Haliburton of $151,522.

The municipal levy has increased by only 3.4% due in part to the $105,000 surplus from last year.

The County levy has shown only a slight increase of 0.6%.

The education levy announced by the Haliburton County Board of Education last month has had a major impact on the overall tax increase. The levy increased by $167,151 to boost the overall tax increase to just under 11%.

In 1985 overall expenditures including county, education and municipal spending, are expected to drop by $9,404 from last year. Total municipal expenditures are also expected to drop slightly.

While many of the separate expenditures by the municipality will remain much the same as last year, there are some major differences.

Administrative costs are expected to drop from $156,644 to $146,070. Similarly funds spent on property will be down from $51,621 to $38,161.

The most significant decrease in expenditures is the amount spent on special programs that are funded mainly by senior levels of government. In 1984 $224,528 was spent on the programs. This year only $48,152 has been allocated.

The municipality will be paying more attention to road construction this year. $162,500 has been earmarked for road construction in 1985, an increase of $23,781 over last year's actual expenditures.

The municipality will also be spending more on planning and development. Spending will increase from $54,872 to $74,570.

Parks and community celebrations will benefit even more from this year's budget. Allocations will nearly double from $78,077 in 1984 to $131,335.

$8000 has been set aside for the municipal election in November, an expense that the municipality has not been able to consider since 1981.

On the revenue side the municipality expects to collect $1,819,584 in taxes in 1985, an increase of $242,027 over last year.

While unconditional grants are expected to increase by $11,616 to $195,055, specific grants are expected to drop sharply from the 1984 figure of $715,384 to $480,740.

Budget spurs surplus debate

The 1985 municipal budget was passed unanimously at the meeting of council on Thursday but not before council members engaged in a spirited debate on the implementation of the 1984 surplus.

Acting Deputy Reeve Gary Kenney began the discussion by commending Acting Reeve, Ed Pergolas and Clerk-Treasurer Bev Millar for their work in preparing "the most clearly stated budget we have seen." Kenney added that although he would have preferred to see a lower increase in the education levy, "The bottom line is that this is a good budget."

Kenney said he did have concerns however since, "There is too much leeway in interpreting the budget in some areas." "We will need to consider what to do with the surplus." He suggested that council should set some priorities in deciding how best to allocate the funds.

Noting that $30,000 of the 1984 surplus has already been allocated to road repairs, as a result of a resolution passed at the last council meeting, Kenney outlined his priorities for the remaining $75,000.

(more on page 3)

Saxophonist Heidi Tashlin concentrates during a performance of the HHSS Stage Band Thursday at Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden. The award winning musical ensemble made a number of public appearances in the past week delighting audiences wherever they appeared. For details of the annual Spring Concert, see page 9.

New manager for Chamber

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce has a new manager. Shawn Hagerman, chairman of the hiring committee, announced last week that Mrs. Shirley Rapson will be taking over the post.

Mrs. Rapson, who is a native of West Guilford, will be assuming the Chamber duties June 1. She is the daughter of Mrs. Elva Cooper and the late Stanley Cooper. Along with her husband, Ken, she is part owner, with her brothers Earl and Sid Cooper, of the Lakeside Golf Course at West Guilford.

She will be taking over the post which has been vacant for several months following the resignation of Emily Skinner. She stepped down in March due to ill health.

Mrs. Rapson is returning to the Highlands from Timmins where she owned and managed an insurance agency. According to the press release issued by the Chamber, the couple are eagerly looking forward to taking up residence in this area.

Voters want stability: Eakins

John Eakins is looking forward, cautiously, to the era of stable government which he expects to evolve after his party takes its seat on the government side of the provincial legislature. The Victoria-Haliburton MPP made his remarks Tuesday afternoon in an interview with The Times.

"Stability is an important factor at this time," the MPP said. "Most people I talk to do not want another election. With the leadership races at both the federal and provincial levels and the elections at the two levels, people want a period of stable government."

Eakins said he felt his party, with the help of the NDP, could provide that stability in Ontario. However, he also sounded a note of caution by pointing out that even though the Liberals and NDP have formed an alliance which could command a majority in the Legislature, the party is not guaranteed it will get the chance.

He noted that following a vote of confidence in the Legislature, the actions of the Lieutenant Governor would be crucial. While most observers are suggesting the Queen's representative would ask the Liberals, with the help of the NDP to form the next government in the province, he could also call for a general election. While this possibility appears distant, Eakins has not discounted it completely.

The Victoria-Haliburton MPP said he expected if the Liberals do lead the next provincial government, new legislation would be enacted which would benefit all parts of the province. He said he could not identify any particular legislation which would have a dramatic impact on this riding, but suggested the area would be a beneficiary as would other sectors of the province.

Eakins is one of the more

(more on page 3)

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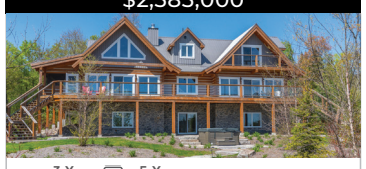
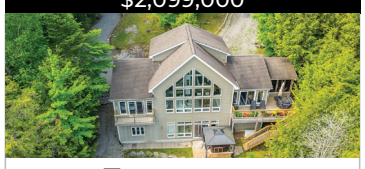


3 X BED | 5 X BATH | MLS# X12170193

KENNISIS LAKE
$2,099,000

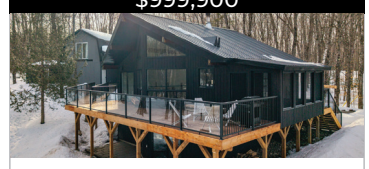


5 X BED | 3 X BATH | MLS# X12110017

KENNISIS LAKE
$1,099,000

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12169805

EAGLE LAKE
$999,900



3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12029422

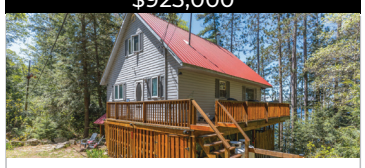
CANNING LAKE
$999,000

3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12151314

HORSESHOE LAKE (ROAD BTWN)
$998,000

3 X BED | 3 X BATH | MLS# X12137855

KENNISIS LAKE
$925,000

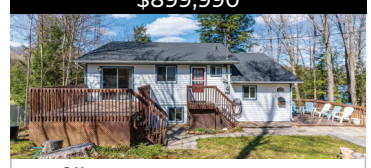


3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12176356

HALIBURTON LAKE
$925,000

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12074153

LONG LAKE
$899,990

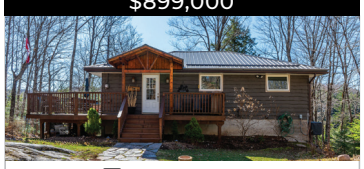


6 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12146750

KOSHLONG LAKE
$899,000

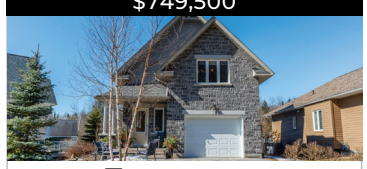
3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12166694

NEGAUNEE LAKE
$899,000



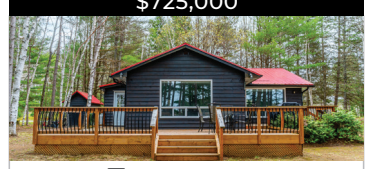
3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12120338

SILVER BEACH
$749,500



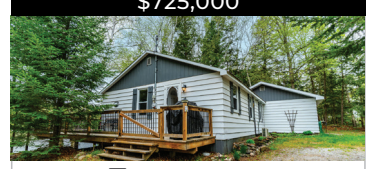
3 X BED | 4 X BATH | MLS# X12071612

WILBERMERE LAKE
$725,000



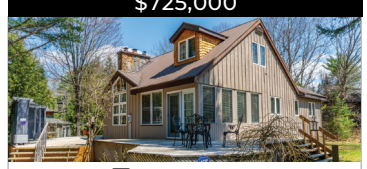
3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12138474

HALIBURTON LAKE
$725,000



3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12159564

KENNISIS RIVER
$725,000



X BED | # X BATH | MLS# X12137708

HEART LAKE
$699,900
NEW LISTING

3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12179568

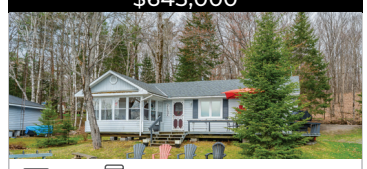
HALIBURTON
$699,000
NEW LISTING

3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X 12182080

EAGLE LAKE AREA
$659,900
NEW PRICE

2 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12095585

KUSHOG LAKE
$645,000



3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12130572

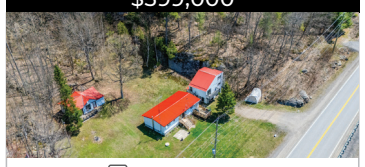
CRANBERRY LAKE
$619,000
NEW PRICE

2 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12101365

BOBCAYGEON ROAD
$599,000
NEW LISTING

2 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12175990

KUSHOG LAKE (RD BETWEEN)
$599,000



4 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12140930

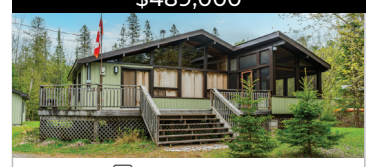
GLAMOR LAKE
$599,000

2 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12161505

HALIBURTON
$568,000
NEW LISTING

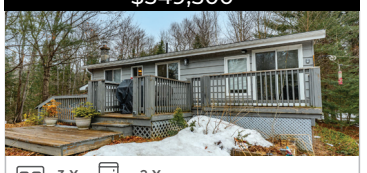
2 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12175116

12 MILE LAKE
$489,000



3 X BED | 1 X BATH | MLS# X12155241

WILBERFORCE
$549,500



3 X BED | 2 X BATH | MLS# X12093164

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